



**OFFICE OF PLANNING
STATE OF HAWAII**

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DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

LEO R. ASUNCION
DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF PLANNING

Statement of
LEO R. ASUNCION
Director, Office of Planning
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Thursday, February 25, 2016
1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

in consideration of

**SB 2829
RELATING TO STATE PLANNING.**

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means.

The Office of Planning (OP) supports SB 2829, an Administration Bill that tasks OP with conducting a comprehensive review of Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) Chapter 226, the State Planning Act, to include: (1) the analysis of a wide array of state policies and programs, county plans and programs, functional plans, capital improvements programs, and significant issues confronting the State with respect to the State Planning Act and its implementation; and (2) soliciting proposals for amendments to the State Planning Act from the general public pursuant to HRS § 226-54. OP is to submit a report of its findings, recommendations, and proposed legislation, if any, to the Legislature prior to the 2018 legislative session.

HRS Chapter 226 was enacted in 1978, after a multi-year, cross-sector effort to develop goals and policies to guide the development of the State and to establish an integrated planning and implementation system to deliver on those policies. The last review of HRS Chapter 226 was initiated in 1983 and completed in 1985, and resulted in the enactment of legislation to fine

tune the goals, policies, and objectives of Part I and priority guidelines of Part III of the State Planning Act.

Since then, there have been significant changes in Hawaii's economic, physical, and social conditions, technology, and the global marketplace, as well as in the constraints and opportunities the State faces as we plan for the future. Every legislative session there are individual bills proposing new policies and revisions to existing policies to address changes in our planning environment. A comprehensive review of the State Planning Act—with respect to how it aligns with current and emerging conditions and issues and its effectiveness in addressing the needs of Hawaii's people and providing for Hawaii's future—is long overdue.

The Office of Planning respectfully requests an appropriation amount of \$150,000 for both fiscal years 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 in order to complete the comprehensive review. These funds are required as currently OP lacks the staff and resources to undertake a project of this scope. A rigorous evaluation of the State Planning Act will require an investment of public and private resources. Development of the original plan included thorough topic area studies, statewide collaboration, and input by subject matter experts. The office estimates that the proposed appropriation amounts being requested would be sufficient to accomplish this work.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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Statement of
LUIS P. SALAVERIA
Director, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Thursday, February 25, 2016
1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

in consideration of
SB2829
RELATING TO STATE PLANNING.

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) **supports** SB2829 that tasks the Office of Planning (OP) with conducting a comprehensive review of Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) Chapter 226, the State Planning Act, to include: (1) the analysis of a wide array of state policies and programs, county plans and programs, functional plans, capital improvements programs, and significant issues confronting the State with respect to the State Planning Act and its implementation; and (2) soliciting proposals for amendments to the State Planning Act from the general public pursuant to HRS § 226-54. OP is to submit a report of its findings, recommendations, and proposed legislation, if any, to the Legislature prior to the 2018 legislative session.

HRS Chapter 226 was enacted in 1978, after a multi-year, cross-sector effort to develop goals and policies to guide the development of the State and to establish an integrated planning and implementation system to deliver on those policies. The last review of HRS Chapter 226 was initiated in 1983 and completed in 1985, and resulted in the enactment of legislation to fine tune the goals, policies, and objectives of Part I and priority guidelines of Part III of the State Planning Act.

Since then, there have been significant changes in Hawaii's economic, physical, and social conditions, technology, and the global marketplace, as well as in the constraints and opportunities the State faces as we plan for the future. Every legislative session there are individual bills proposing new policies and revisions to existing policies to address changes in our planning environment. A comprehensive review of the State Planning Act—with respect to

how it aligns with current and emerging conditions and issues and its effectiveness in addressing the needs of Hawaii's people and providing for Hawaii's future—is long overdue.

The measure includes an appropriation amount of \$150,000 for both fiscal years 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 to OP in order to complete the comprehensive review. These funds would be required as OP lacks the staff and resources to undertake a project of this scope at this time. A rigorous evaluation of the State Planning Act will require an investment of public and private resources. Development of the original plan included thorough topic area studies, statewide collaboration, and input by subject matter experts. OP estimates that the proposed appropriation amounts would be sufficient to accomplish this work.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor



SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson

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**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

February 25, 2016
1:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 211

**SENATE BILL NO. 2829
RELATING TO STATE PLANNING**

Chairperson Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2829, an Administration measure, that tasks the Office of Planning with conducting a comprehensive review of the Hawaii State Planning Act (Chapter 226), to include: (1) analysis of State policies and programs, county plans and programs, functional plans, capital improvements programs, and significant issues confronting the State with respect to the State Planning Act and its implementation; and (2), soliciting proposals for amendments to the State Planning Act from the general public. The Office of Planning is to submit a report of its findings, recommendations, and proposed legislation, if any, to the 2017 Legislature. The Department of Agriculture is in strong support of this measure.

Since the last review of the Hawaii State Plan was completed in 1985, there have been significant changes in Hawaii's economic, physical, and social conditions, technology, and the global marketplace. With respect to agriculture, sugar and pineapple are on the verge of disappearing completely from Hawaii, while emerging uses such as solar energy facilities compete with traditional crop production on agricultural lands. Urban development and subdivision of agricultural lands have



removed thousands of acres of agricultural land from production. Every legislative session brings measures to tighten up or loosen existing policies and laws meant to protect, promote and conserve agricultural activities and resources. We believe a comprehensive review of the State Planning Act would help align the Act with current conditions and issues thereby increasing its effectiveness in guiding government and private actions and lead to the prudent use of Hawaii's agricultural resources and protection of agricultural activities.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our testimony.